

BOROUGH OF NEATH



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1953



BOROUGH OF NEATH

Members of Neath Borough Council for the Year 1953

Mayor	...	...	Alderman John Walter Jones, J.P.
Deputy Mayor	...	...	Councillor Richard Smith.
Aldermen	...	...	R. W. Perrott, W. R. Francis, S. L. Burton, Eleazer Thomas and Thomas Hughes.
Councillors	...	...	G. Howard Davies, Alfred R. Harris, T. E. C. Molland, W. Kingdon Owen, L. Rowland Thomas, E. Cledwyn Davies, J. Emlyn Emanuel, F. S. Evans, D. C. Griffiths, G. T. Rosser, W. S. Watkins, Percy A. Bishop, William R. Evans, Mrs. H. G. Howells, J. Aneurin Rees, W. T. D. Phillips and I. G. Tallamy.

MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman	...	...	Councillor W. R. Watkins
Vice-Chairman	...	...	Alderman E. Thomas
Members	...	...	All Members of the Council

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer	...	...	Haydn R. Stubbins, M.D. (Edin.), D.P.H.
Sanitary Inspectors	...	...	Evan Thomas, Chief Sanitary Inspector; R. T. Probert, D. J. Howells and T. G. Hopkins, Certified Meat and Sanitary Inspectors.

B O R O U G H O F N E A T H

Public Health Department,

NEATH,

Glam.

~~July, 1955~~
August, 1954.

Mr. Mayor, Mrs. Howells and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for the year ended December, 1953.

The Birth-rate at 14.18 per thousand of the population is slightly lower than that recorded for 1952, whilst the Death-rate at 11.2 per thousand remains the same as that for last year. It is interesting to note that 72.0% of the deaths were in persons over 66 years of age.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

Again I have to record that out of the 448 births which occurred in the Borough, there was no maternal death.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Eight infants died before reaching their first birthday. This gives an Infantile Mortality rate of 17.86 per thousand live births. This is a marked improvement on last year's Infantile Mortality rate and compares very favourably with any other Local Authority in the County of Glamorgan. Three infants died from prematurity, one from Congenital deformity, one from birth injury, two from Pneumonia and one from Rhesus Factor.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

This year I have very little to report upon Infectious Diseases. There was no epidemic and no deaths.

MEASLES.

One hundred and thirty-one cases were notified.

WHOOPING COUGH.

Seventy-one cases were notified. The scheme for immunisation against this distressing disease is now in full operation and I am glad to be able to report that parents are taking the opportunity of having their babies immunised as early as possible.

DIPHTHERIA.

There were no notifications again this year. Diphtheria, as a disease, appears to be on the way out, but this must not lull us into a state of false security. Diphtheria immunisation must be continued with the usual vigour. During the year 73% of the children were immunised against this disease.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Thirty-four cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and six cases of Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified to me in 1953. In all cases the homes were visited and all contacts referred to the Chest Physician for further examination. A B.C.G. Clinic is held once weekly at the Cimla Hospital and during the year over 226 persons, mostly children, were inoculated with the B.C.G. Vaccine.

Several surveys of school children were carried out during the year, these being done in conjunction with the Chest Physician and his staff and the Mass Radiography Unit of the Regional Hospital Board. The schools involved were the Neath Grammar Schools, Technical College and the Herbert Road Infants' School.

The students at the Neath Grammar School for Girls and the children at the Herbert Road Infants' School were also Mantoux tested, all positive reactors were X-rayed. Only one case was definitely diagnosed as suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, but several were found to require further observation.

The scheme for B.C.G. Vaccination of school children in their 13th year will shortly be introduced by the School Medical Service of the Glamorgan Education Committee.

Only negative reactors to the Mantoux skin test will be vaccinated and, of course, the consent of the parent or guardian of each child will have to be obtained before any treatment is carried out. An explanatory letter will be sent to the parent or guardian of each child and it is hoped to obtain the fullest co-operation from those responsible, just as we succeeded when the scheme for Diphtheria immunisation was introduced.

HOUSING

One hundred and one houses were completed and occupied during 1953.

Although over one thousand houses have been completed and occupied since the War, there does not seem to be any significant decrease in the number of fresh applications for re-housing. It is true that, except for a minority who applied "late," most of the large families have now been re-housed. We are now confronted with the smaller family unit of husband and wife with one or two children. The Council's policy of erecting a number of flats with two bedrooms has been of great value in re-housing the smaller families, especially if the children are of the same sex.

Although there are cases of gross overcrowding still in the Area, these are comparatively easy to assess from the point of view of re-housing, but the type of household which gives the Committee the greatest concern is the one in which friction has arisen between the tenant and sub-tenant. In many instances there is a close family relationship between the two. The mental stress and strain on both, especially the sub-tenant, is very great and must, ultimately, lead to ill-health. To assess this type of case is difficult for, on the one hand, the conditions prevailing seem, objectively, not too bad; while on the other hand, if the applicants feel that much weight is placed on their complaints, it is so easy to exaggerate the difficulties which occur. Nevertheless, one must have some recourse to mental strain, the relief of which must lead to the happiness of the family and thus to good health which, after all, is what is aimed for.

In conclusion, I would like to take this opportunity of thanking the Council for their encouragement and to the staff of the Health Department for the loyal co-operation during the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

H. R. STUBBINS,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	...	Including Foreshore	5,040
						Excluding Foreshore	4,502
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£169,968	0 0
Sum Produced by Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	£658	0 0
Population—Registrar's Figures for 1951...	...	...	...	...	...		32,230

BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY, MATERNAL MORTALITY AND CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1953

	England and Wales	126 County Boroughs and great towns, incl: London	148 Smaller Towns Resid: Population 25,000- 50,000 at 1951 Census	London Adminis: County	NEATH
Rates per 1,000 Home Population					
BIRTHS.					
Live Births	15.5	17.0	15.7	17.5	14.18
Still Births	(0.35	0.43	0.34	0.38	0.32
	(22.4(a)	24.8(a)	21.4(a)	21.0(a)	21.8(a)
DEATHS.					
All Causes	11.4	12.2	11.3	12.5	11.24
Typhoid & Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis	0.20	0.24	0.19	0.24	0.41
Influenza	0.16	0.15	0.17	0.15	0.09
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
A c u t e Poliomyelitis (including Polioenceph- alitis)	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Pneumonia	0.55	0.59	0.52	0.64	0.44
NOTIFICATIONS (Corrected).					
Typhoid Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Meningococcal Infec- tion	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.13
Scarlet Fever	1.39	1.50	1.44	1.02	0.98
Whooping Cough	3.58	3.72	3.38	3.30	2.25
Diphtheria	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00
Erysipelas	0.14	0.14	0.13	0.12	0.00
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles	12.36	11.27	12.32	8.09	4.15
Pneumonia	0.84	0.92	0.76	0.73	0.44
A c u t e Poliomyelitis (including Polioenceph- alitis Paralytic)	0.07	0.00	0.06	0.07	0.00
Non-Paralytic	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.00
Rates per 1,000 Live Births					
DEATHS.					
All Causes under 1 year	26.8(b)	30.8	24.3	24.8	17.85
Enteritis and Diarrhoea					
Under 2 years	1.1	1.3	0.9	1.1	0.00
(a) Per 1,000 total (live and still) Births. (b) Per 1,000 related live births.					

MATERNAL MORTALITY IN ENGLAND AND WALES

Cause	Number of Deaths	Rates per 1,000 Total (live and still Births)	Rates per million women 15-44 years
Sepsis of Pregnancy, Childbirth and the Puerperium... ..	68	0.10	
(Abortion with Toxæmia	7	0.01	1
(Other Toxæmias or Pregnancy and the Puerperium... ..	166	0.24	
Hæmorrhage of Pregnancy and childbirth	90	0.13	
Abortion without mention of Sepsis or Toxæmia... ..	30	0.04	3
Abortion with Sepsis	39	0.06	4
Other complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the Puerperium	125	0.18	

BIRTHS

The number of live births in the Borough was 448, made up of 218 males and 230 females, and giving a birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population of 14.18.

Year	Birthrate	Year	Birthrate
1953	14.18	1937	14.7
1952	14.72	1936	15.5
1951	14.25	1935	15.5
1950	15.73	1934	16.1
1949	15.9	1933	13.5
1948	18.3	1932	16.0
1947	20.1	1931	14.1
1946	19.1	1930	16.8
1945	16.0	1929	16.9
1944	18.2	1928	16.7
1943	14.5	1927	17.0
1942	16.1	1926	18.2
1941	13.9	1925	22.0
1940	13.3		
1939	13.9		
1938	14.9		

CAUSES OF DEATHS

Figures given by Registrar-General

	Males	Females	TOTAL
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	7	3	10
Tuberculosis, Other	3	0	3
Syphilitic Disease	1	0	1
Diphtheria	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	0	0	0
Meningococcal Infections	0	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis	0	0	0
Measles	0	0	0
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	0	0	0
Malignant Neoplasm—Stomach	7	4	11
Malignant Neoplasm—Lung bronchus	17	0	17
Malignant Neoplasm—Breast	0	2	2
Malignant Neoplasm—Uterus... ..	0	5	5
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	10	10	20
Leukæmia, Aleukæmia... ..	1	1	2
Diabetes	2	2	4
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	17	24	41
Coronary Diseases of Angina	34	7	41
Hypertension with Heart Disease ...	6	1	7
Other Heart Disease	25	29	54
Other Circulatory Disease	15	5	20
Influenza	0	3	3
Pneumonia	9	5	14
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	18	5	23
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	7	2	9
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhœa ...	3	0	3
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	1	2
Hyperplasia of Prostate	4	1	5
Pregnancy, Child-birth, Abortion ...	4	0	4
Congenital Malformations	0	1	1
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	18	16	34
Motor vehicle accidents... ..	1	1	2
All other accidents	6	8	14
Suicide	1	2	3
Homicide and Operations of War ...	0	0	0
ALL CAUSES	217	138	355

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS

The total number of illegitimate births registered as referring to residents of the Borough was 13, giving a rate of 28.38 total live and still births.

The total number of illegitimate children born in the Borough during the past ten years as:—

1943	...	17	1948	...	9
1944	...	15	1949	...	13
1945	...	27	1950	...	8
1946	...	22	1951	...	12
1947	...	12	1952	...	13

STILL BIRTHS

The number of still-births was 10, giving a rate of 21.8 per 1,000 live and still births and 0.32 per 1,000 population.

DEATHS

The number of deaths registered during the year of all ages was 355—217 males and 138 females. This gives a death rate of 11.24 and may be compared with the previous years in the following Table:—

1952	...	11.52	1946	...	12.8
1951	...	13.97	1945	...	12.6
1950	...	13.56	1944	...	12.2
1949	...	11.8	1943	...	12.4
1948	...	12.1	1942	...	11.9
1947	...	12.6	1941	...	14.7

The Ward Distribution of Deaths was as follows:—

North Ward	...	...	...	...	126
South Ward	...	...	...	...	124
Briton Ferry Ward	...	...	...	...	105

The Table on Page 7 gives classification of the causes of death, as recorded by the Registrar General. Age groups are given below:—

Under 1 year	...	8	36-45	...	15
1-5	...	4	46-55	...	40
6-10	...	2	56-65	...	69
11-15	...	3	60-70	...	42
16-20	...	2	71-80	...	107
21-25	...	2	81-90	...	46
26-35	...	8	Over 90...	...	7

GLAMORGAN (ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY) VITAL STATISTICS, 1953

	Estimated Population 1953	BIRTHS		DEATHS		INFANT MORTALITY		NEO NATAL MORTALITY	
		Number of Births	Rate per 1,000 Population	Number of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Population	Deaths under 1 Year	Rate per 1,000 Live Births	Deaths under 4 Weeks	Rate per 1,000 Live Births
ENGLAND AND WALES									
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY									
URBAN DISTRICTS	736,300	11,897	16.16	8,673	11.4	371	26.8	230	17.7
RURAL DISTRICTS	203,200	3,169	15.60	6,363	11.78	254	31.18	156	19.33
Heath Division	533,100	8,728	16.37	2,310	11.94	117	29.10	74	17.87
Constituent Districts									
ABERDARE AND MOUNTAIN ASH									
Aberdare Urban	40,700	552	13.56	600	14.74	17	30.80	14	25.36
Mountain Ash Urban	30,970	525	16.95	349	11.27	13	24.76	9	17.14
CAERPHILLY AND GELLIGAER									
Caerphilly Urban	36,550	735	20.11	339	9.27	27	36.73	15	20.41
Gelligaer Urban	35,980	664	18.45	389	10.81	21	31.63	8	12.05
MID GLAMORGAN									
Bridgend Urban	13,770	224	16.27	137	9.95	9	40.18	7	31.25
Maesteg Urban	22,880	423	18.49	252	11.01	14	33.10	9	21.28
Ogmore & Gae. w Urban	22,420	375	16.73	258	11.51	16	42.67	9	24.00
Porthcawl Urban	9,781	139	14.21	134	13.70	6	43.17	4	28.78
Penybont Rural	35,250	584	16.57	456	12.94	19	32.53	12	20.55
NEATH & DISTRICT									
Neath M.B. ...	31,590	448	14.18	355	11.24	8	17.86	6	13.39
Neath Rural ...	41,200	616	14.95	448	10.87	31	50.32	23	37.34
PONTYPRIDD AND LLANTRISANT									
Llantrisant Rural	25,570	512	20.02	263	10.29	20	39.06	10	19.53
Pontypridd U. ban	38,200	579	15.16	645	16.88	11	19.00	8	13.82
PORT TALBOT AND GLYNCORRWG									
Glyncorrwg Urban	9,490	183	19.28	101	10.64	8	43.72	3	16.39
Port Talbot M.B. ...	45,170	836	18.51	501	11.09	16	19.14	12	14.35
SOUTH EAST GLAMORGAN									
Barry M.B. ...	41,160	727	17.66	461	9.77	22	30.26	14	19.26
Cardiff Rural...	36,550	483	13.21	12	12.61	8	16.56	6	12.42
Cowbridge M.B. ...	1,029	12	11.66	120	5.76	8	24.77	5	15.48
Cowbridge Rural	20,830	323	15.51	221	11.78	3	9.46	1	3.15
Penarth Urban	18,760	317	16.90	221	11.78	3	9.46	1	3.15
WEST GLAMORGAN									
Gower Rural ...	11,630	203	17.45	137	11.78	9	44.33	4	19.70
Llchwyr Urban	25,550	323	12.64	267	10.45	12	37.15	5	15.48
Pontardawe Rural	32,170	448	13.93	425	13.21	22	49.11	14	31.25
RHONDDA	109,100	1,666	15.27	1,401	12.84	51	30.61	32	19.21
Rhondda Urban									

HOME NURSING.

	Medical	Surgical	Infectious Diseases	Tuber- culosis	Maternal Compli- cations	Others	Totals	Patients included in (2)- (7) who were 65 or over at the time of 1st visit during the year.	Children included in (2)- (7) who were under 5 at the time of 1st visit during the year.	Patients included (2)-(7) who have more than 24 visits during the year.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
No. of cases attended by Home Nurses during the year.	1130	252	6	128	—	4	1520	706	200	216
No. of visits paid by Home Nurses during the year.	26651	7502	6	5209	—	21	39479	21504	670	

DOMESTIC HELPS.

Number of Domestic Helps employed at end of year—	(a) Whole-time.....	1
	(b) Part-time.....	9
	(c) Casual.....	36

Number of cases where domestic help was provided during the year :—

(a) Maternity (including expectant mothers)	20
(b) Tuberculosis	11
(c) Chronic sick (including aged and infirm)	134
(d) Others	50

CANCER DEATHS

The age distribution was as follows :—

Ages				Male	Female
25-35	...	...	...	0	0.
36-45	...	...	...	2	3
46-55	...	...	...	7	3
56-65	...	...	...	8	5
66-75	...	...	...	10	4
76-85	...	...	...	3	6
Over 85	...	...	...	4	0
Total				34	21

DEATHS BY VIOLENCE

The number of deaths by violence was 19. The following Table gives the causes of death :—

Suicide	...	...	...	...	3
Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	2
All other accidents	...	...	...	...	14
Total					19

INFANT DEATHS

Cause of Death	Under 1 month		Over 1 mth. and under 1 year		Total		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M. and F.
Prematurity	...	...	1	2	—	—	3
Congenital Deformities	...	...	1	—	—	—	1
Birth Injury	...	...	—	—	1	—	1
Pneumonia	...	...	—	1	—	2	2
Rhesus Factor	...	...	1	—	—	—	1
Total	...	...	3	3	1	1	8

COMPARATIVE FIGURES OF INFANT DEATHS FOR PREVIOUS YEARS

1953	...	...	8	1947	...	...	17
1952	...	...	14	1946	...	...	20
1951	...	...	22	1945	...	...	22
1950	...	...	14	1944	...	...	18
1949	...	...	22	1943	...	...	30
1948	...	...	17	1942	...	...	29

TUBERCULOSIS

NOTIFICATION OF NEW CASES						DEATHS			
						Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
						M.	F.	M.	F.
0-5 years	...	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
6-10	...	...	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
11-15	...	...	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
16-20	...	...	1	5	—	—	—	—	—
21-25	...	...	2	1	—	3	—	—	—
26-30	...	...	1	2	—	—	1	—	—
31-35	...	...	—	2	—	1	—	—	—
36-40	...	...	1	2	—	—	—	—	—
41-45	...	...	2	2	—	2	—	—	—
46-50	...	...	1	—	—	2	1	—	—
51-55	...	...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
56-60	...	...	2	3	—	1	—	—	—
61-70	...	...	4	—	—	—	1	2	—
Over 70	...	...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
TOTAL	...	...	17	17	1	5	7	3	—

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Annual Return for Year Ended 31st December, 1953

NEATH HEALTH DIVISION

IMMUNISATION IN RELATION TO CHILD POPULATION.

Number of Children at 31st December, 1953, who had completed a course of immunisation at any time before that date (i.e., at any time since 1st January, 1939)

Age at 3.12.1953 i.e., Born in Year	Under 1 1953	1-4 1952-1949	5-9 1948-1944	10-14 1943-1939	Under 15 Total
Last complete course of injections (whether primary or booster).					
(A) 1949-1953 ...	34	2921	3394	1901	8250
(B) 1948 or earlier ...	—	—	2015	2947	4962
(C) Estimated child Population ...		5946	10,124		16070

DIPHTHERIA NOTIFICATIONS AND DEATHS IN RELATION TO
IMMUNISATION DURING THE YEAR 1953

NOTIFICATIONS

DEATHS

Age at date of Notification	Number of Cases Notified	No. of cases included in preceding column in which child had completed a full course of immunisation	Age at date of notification	Number of Deaths	No. of cases included in preceding column in which the child had completed a full course of immunisation
Under 1.....	—	—	Under 1	—	—
1—4	—	—	1—4	—	—
5—9	—	—	5—9	—	—
10—14	—	—	10—14	—	—
TOTALS	—	—	TOTALS	—	—

VACCINATION

Annual Return for the Year Ended 31st December, 1953

NUMBER OF PERSONS VACCINATED (or re-Vaccinated)
DURING PERIOD

Age at Date of Vaccination	Under 1	1	2—4	5—14	15 and over	TOTAL
Number Vaccinated	81	9	4	10	22	126
Number Re-Vaccinated	—	—	1	4	39	44

NUMBER OF CASES SPECIALLY REPORTED DURING PERIOD

(Age groups as above)

(a) Generalised Vaccinia	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Post-vaccinal Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Death from complications of vaccination other than (a) and (b)	—	—	—	—	—	—

CHILD WELFARE CLINIC

Centres provided by —	No. of Child Welfare Sessions now held per month	No. of Centres provided at end of year	No. of Children who first attended a centre during the year, and who on their first attendance were under 1 yr. of age	Number of Children who attended during the year and who were born in—			Total No. of children who attended during the year	No. of attendances during the year made by children who at the date of attendance were:—			Total attendances during the year
				1953	1952	1951-48		Under 1 year	1, but under 2	2, but under 5	
Local Health Authority	34	12	1004	893	862	971	2726	14149	3650	2260	20,059

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HEALTH VISITING.

HEALTH VISITORS

No. of Children under 5 yrs. visited during yr.	Expectant mothers.		Children under 1 year of age.		Children Age 1 and under 2 years.		Children Age 2 and under 5 years.		Tuberculosis households.		Total Number of families or households visited by Health Visitors	
	First Visits.	Total Visits.	First Visits.	Total Visits.	First Visits.	Total Visits.	First Visits.	Total Visits.	First Visits.	Total Visits.	First Visits.	Total Visits.
5334	570	943	1096	5385	2813	6606	1218	2477	7975			

PREMATURE BIRTHS IN THE NEATH HEALTH DIVISION

i.	No. of Premature Live Births	Notified	(a)	In Hospital	59	At Home	24	(c)	Private Nursing Home	nil	TOTAL	83
ii.	No. of Premature Still-Births	Notified	(a)	in Hospital	9	At Home	4	(c)	Private Nursing Home	1	TOTAL	14

ii.	No. of Premature Still-Births Notified	(a) in Hospital	At Home	(c) Private Nursing Home	TOTAL
		q	4	1	14

PREMATURE LIVE BIRTHS

PREMATURE STILL-BIRTHS

[illegible]

NEATH HEALTH DIVISION

LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES

Return relating to Services provided by or on behalf of the Council as Local Health Authority, and of the work done during the year 1953.

BIRTHS

(a) Live Births.	(b) Stillbirths	(c) TOTALS
Domiciliary ... 377	Domiciliary ... 8	Domiciliary ... 385
Institutional ... 690	Institutional ... 19	Institutional ... 709
		Grand Total ... 1094

ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINICS

(1)	No. of Clinics provided at end of year (2)	Number of sessions now held per month (3)	Number of women in attendance		Total number of attendances during the year (6)
			No. of women who attended during the year (4)	No. of new cases included in col. (4) (5)	
Local Health Authority Clinics. Ante-natal Clinics	5	22	1304	981	5201
Post-Natal Clinics ...			(261)	(255)	(384)

No. of women post-natally examined at Ante-natal Clinics are shown in brackets

DENTAL CARE OF EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS
AND CHILDREN UNDER SCHOOL AGE

Number of expectant and nursing mothers for whom treatment was completed during the year ... 38

Number of children under school age for whom treatment was completed during the year ... 82

DELIVERIES ATTENDED BY MIDWIVES.

Number of Deliveries attended by Midwives in the area during the year.

	Domiciliary Cases				Totals	Cases in Institution
	Doctor not Booked		Doctor Booked			
	Doctor present at time of delivery of child	Doctor not present at time of delivery of child.	Doctor present at time of delivery of child (either the booked Doctor or another)	Doctor not present at time of delivery of child		
Midwives employed by the Authority	6	182	20	168	376	
Midwives employed by Hospital Management Committees or Boards of Governors under the National Health Service Act						1323
Midwives in Private Practice (in- cluding Midwives employed in Nursing Homes)	2	11	1	2	16	
Totals	8	193	21	170	392	1323

Number of cases delivered in institutions, but attended by domiciliary midwives on discharge from institutions and before the fourteenth day 11

MEDICAL AID UNDER SECTION 14 (1) OF THE MIDWIVES ACT, 1951

Domiciliary Cases :—

(i) Where the Medical Practitioner had arranged to provide the patient with maternity medical services under the National Health Service	70
(ii) Others	96
Total.....	166

DISINFECTION

During the year disinfection of articles of clothing and infected houses in the Borough was carried out at the homes of infected persons by means of Formaldehyde vapour.

Every case of Infectious Disease was visited and, where suitable, disinfection was carried out. This disinfection of contaminated articles by Formaldehyde has been going on for many years. In the light of our present knowledge of bacteriology I doubt very much whether it is really effective. What it really does is, that the disinfection creates such a mess that the housewife has, of necessity, to open all the windows and get to work with soap and water and scrubbing brush. This, in my opinion, is the effective disinfection, but whether public opinion is ready to do away with this Formaldehyde disinfection is very doubtful.

This must not be confused with the disinfection of bed clothing and articles which have been in close contact with cases such as Tuberculosis. To be made safe they would be stoved. Arrangements are now available for these contaminated articles and clothing to be properly stoved and made safe by special treatment at Tonna Hospital.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES FOR 1953

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	31
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	71
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	—
Measles	...	...	...	...	131
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	—
Acute Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	51
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	1
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	—
Acute Encephalitis	...	...	...	...	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	...	—
Paratyphoid Fever	...	...	...	...	—
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	—
Meningococcal Infection	...	...	...	...	1
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	—
Total					253

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Years			Cases Notified	No. Immunised
1941	...	...	42	5
1942	...	...	64	0
1943	...	...	30	7
1944	...	...	33	4
1945	...	...	31	3
1946	...	...	36	6
1947	...	...	16	7
1948	...	...	19	11
1949	...	...	7	0
1950	...	...	6	2
1951	...	...	0	0
1952	...	...	0	0
1953	...	...	0	0

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE BOROUGH

The Chemical and Bacteriological examination of material submitted by the Health Department of the Corporation is carried out by the Cardiff and County Public Health Laboratory, Cardiff.

The numbers of specimens submitted during the year were:—

Swabs to be examined for the presence of Diphtheria bacilli...	9
Milk Samples 	137
Water Samples 	102

BOROUGH OF NEATH

**Annual
Report**

of the

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the year

1953

Annals of the Royal Anthropological Institute

Vol. 10

Part 1

1910

London

NEATH.

August, 1954.

To THE MAYOR and CORPORATION of the BOROUGH OF NEATH

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

I have pleasure in submitting a Report of the work carried out in Sanitary Department during 1953.

STAFF

Mr. EVAN THOMAS, appointed Sanitary Inspector on the 1st January, 1924, and Chief Sanitary Inspector on the 24th November, 1935.
(Certificated Sanitary and Meat Inspector).

Mr. R. T. PROBERT, appointed Sanitary Inspector on the 1st March, 1936.
(Certificated Sanitary and Meat Inspector).

Mr. D. J. HOWELLS, appointed Sanitary Inspector on the 1st January, 1948.
(Certificated Sanitary and Meat Inspector).

Mr. T. G. HOPKINS, appointed Sanitary Inspector on the 1st February, 1947.
(Certificated Sanitary and Meat Inspector).

GENERAL CLERK, Public Health Department—Miss D. M. BRUCE.
(Transferred from Borough Engineer's Department, 29th December, 1952).

HOUSING INSPECTION

Number of houses inspected for defects under the Public Health and Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,772
Number of visits of inspection in respect of same	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,021
Number of houses found not in all respects to be fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	480
Number of houses rendered fit after service of Notices, including 140, which were in course of compliance at the end of 1952	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	518
Number of houses subject to Notices at the end of 1953, the time having not expired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	102

DEFECTS FOUND DURING INSPECTION

	Premises affected
DRAINS: Defective, absence of, defectively constructed, defective fittings	168

WATER CLOSETS: Defective fittings, broken and defective pans, structural defects and dilapidations of closet buildings ...	105
WATER SUPPLY: No supply, defective and insufficient supply, defective fittings	49
PAVING OF YARD AREAS: Defective yard paving, defective dish to gullies	98
GENERAL HOUSE REPAIRS: Dampness, defective roofs, rain- water troughings and downpipes, defective internal plastering, walls, woodwork, light and ventilation, defective firegrates and chimneys, absence of or defective food stores and coal stores	592
OTHER NUISANCES: Insanitary stables, pig styes and out- buildings, accumulation of refuse or manure, presence of rats and mice, smoke nuisance from domestic chimneys, house and trade refuse	373

All the defects were dealt with under the Public Health Acts.

During the year, 517 complaints; of which 122 were written, were made in respect of various nuisances.

DISINFECTIONS DURING THE YEAR

After cases of Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0
After cases of Scarlet Fever	31
After cases of Cerebro-Spinal Fever and Poliomyelitis ...	0
After deaths and removals (Tuberculosis)	11
After deaths from Cancer	2
Total	44

Steam disinfection of bedding and clothing is carried out at the Tonna Hospital by arrangement with the Mid-Glamorgan Hospital Board, on payment.

Cleansing of Persons is done at the Cleansing Station, Pontardawe, by arrangement with the Pontardawe R.D. Council, on an agreed charge per case.

DISINFESTATIONS DURING THE YEAR

Slum houses during displacement	0
Council houses, reported infested	2
Privately owned houses, reported infested	11
Overcrowding houses during de-crowding	0
Total	13

NEW HOUSES, 1953

The number of new houses erected during the year:

(a)	By the Local Authority—Traditional type	...	...	84
(b)	By other Bodies or Persons	...	...	17
Total				101

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health:—

Premises	Inspections	Notices
Factories with Mechanical Power	104	1
Factories without Mechanical Power	123	1
Other premises under the Act (including works of building engineering constructions, but not including out-workers' premises)	46	0
	273	2

Defects found	Defects	Remedied
SANITARY CONVENIENCES (S.7):		
(a) Insufficient	0	0
(b) Unsuited or Defective	1	1
(c) Other Offences	1	1
	2	2

A list of two outworkers were received during the year.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

Applications were received at the beginning of the year for the re-registration of five Common Lodging Houses, all of which were situated in the Borough, as follows:

Name of Keeper	Address	No. of Reg. Rooms	No. of Reg. L'gers
Mrs. Ann Sandham ...	1 Cattle St., Neath	8	47
Mrs. Ann Sandham and Deputy —Wm. Sandham ...	1 Glamorgan St., Neath	6	16
Evan Rosser ...	68 Water St., Neath	3	15
Ernest Powell ...	11 The Parade, Neath	3	11
D. W. Thomas ...	4 Commercial St., Neath	12	45
		32	134

On the 31st December, 1953, 67 men, 2 women and one child totalling 70 lodgers, were resident, as again accommodation for 134. There were present on this day in 1949-50-51-52 and 53, as follows:—

1949	...	...	...	...	109 lodgers
1950	...	...	...	...	112 „
1951	...	...	...	...	90 „
1952	...	...	...	...	87 „
1953	...	...	...	...	70 „

Of the 70 lodgers, most of them are permanent residents, with the exception of No. 4 Commercial Street, where those of “no fixed abode” are received, with their attendant difficulties.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, ORDERS AND REGULATIONS

SUMMARY OF SAMPLES EXAMINED DURING THE YEAR:—

Total 232	Milk 108	Other Foods 124	Formal 9	Informal 223	Total 232
Almond Marzipan ...	...	...	1	Shredded Meat Suet ...	...
Welsh Rarebit Powder ...	...	...	1	Desiccated Coconut ...	...
Pastry Mixture ...	...	...	6	Mustard Sauce ...	...
Vermicelli ...	...	...	1	French Mustard ...	...
National Flour ...	...	...	1	Dried Beans ...	...
Ground Rice ...	...	...	2	Lemon Curd ...	...
Rice ...	...	...	3	Vegetable Extract ...	...
Sago ...	...	...	1	Milk ...	...
Sponge and Pudding Mixture ...	...	12		Cake Mixture ...	...
Blancmange Powder ...	...	7		Custard Powder ...	...
Dessert Powder ...	...	1		Cornflour ...	...
Baking Powder ...	...	1		Golden Raising Powder ...	...
Stuffing ...	...	1		Dried Soup ...	...
Meat and Vegetable Extract ...	...	1		Lentils ...	...
Meat Paste ...	...	3		Liquid Meat Pection ...	...
Diabetic Apricot Jam ...	...	1		Table Jelly... ...	...
Table Jelly Compound ...	...	3		Gravy Browning ...	...
Cereals ...	...	2		Sago ...	...
Semolina ...	...	2		Trifle Pack ...	...
Coffee Beverage ...	...	1		Cheese Spread ...	...
Condensed Milks ...	...	12		Halibut Liver Oil Capsules ...	...
Christmas Pudding ...	...	1		Olive Oil ...	...
Cream of Tarter ...	...	1		Jersey Cream ...	...
Shortbread ...	...	1		Meat Tenderiser ...	...
Youghhourt ...	...	1		Ground Nutmeg ...	...
Vanilla Flavouring ...	...	1		Lemon Flavouring... ...	...
Mixed Peel ...	...	1		Pearl Barley ...	...
TOTAL ...					232 samples

RATIO OF SAMPLES TO POPULATION:

	Per 1,000 Population
Milk Samples (108) ...	3.27
Other Samples (124) ...	3.75
All Samples (232) ...	7.02

ADULTERATED SAMPLES

There were no adulterated milk samples.

Series No.	Article	Nature of Adulteration	Observation
14N	Cake Mixture	Rancidity	See below
59N	Pastry Mixture	Infestation	"
158N	Halibut Capsules	Deficiency	"
139N	Halibut Capsules	Deficiency	"
164N	Shortbread Mixture	Infestation	"
169N	Cheese Spread	Infestation, etc.	"
171N	Pastry Mixture	Rancidity	"
172N	Cake Flour	Infestation	"
178N	Semolina	Infestation	"
183N	Cake Flour	Infestation	"
184N	Sponge Mixture	Infestation	"
185N	Pastry Mixture	Infestation	"
188N	Pudding Mixture	Infestation	"
222N	Cake Mixture	Infestation	"
223N	Pastry Mixture	Rancidity	"
228N	Cake Mixture	Rancidity	"

There were no adulterated milk samples.

Sampling was carried out throughout the year and no request to sample "in course of delivery" or "appeal to Cow" was received.

It will be observed that ten samples of Flour Confectionery were infested with various Mites, Moths, Beetles, etc., and four samples were rancid. The remainder of the stocks were withdrawn from sale and destroyed. Special inspections and sampling of accumulated war-time stocks were made throughout the year.

The sample of Halibut Liver Oil Capsules were deficient in Vitamin A to the extent of 28 per cent and 41 per cent respectively.

All the samples of foodstuffs were free from harmful colouring, preservatives and mineral oil.

The sample of Yoghourt gave a 3.0 per cent fat content, as compared with 1.8 per cent in 1952.

Summary of samples purchased, number adulterated
and the number in which proceedings were taken
during 1953:—

Sample	No. taken	adulterated	Proceedings
Milk	108	0	0
Other Foods ...	124	13	0

BOROUGH ANALYST

Mr. D. Evans Jones, of the Public Health Laboratory, Cardiff, who was appointed Public Analyst to the Borough as from the 12th October, 1950, continued office.

REGISTERED BUTTER FACTORIES

There remains one registered butter factory in the Borough, at 15a Orchard Street, in the occupation of Messrs W. Elliot & Son. It was not in use during the year.

ARTIFICIAL CREAM

All artificial cream sold in the Borough was in unopened receptables, as received from the manufacturers. Its consumption is very much on the increase, as it is extensively used in the preparation of cakes, fancy pastries and trifles.

CONDENSED AND DRIED MILK REGULATIONS

No case of incorrect description was observed on the labels of any containers during frequent inspection of stocks.

Samples of Condensed Milks, Sweetened and Unsweetened, were submitted for examination. The twelve samples complied with the Regulations with respect to labelling, percentages of milk fat and milk solids and milk equivalent.

MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT

The marking Orders relating to imported eggs, bacon, dried fruit, meat and poultry, apples, tomatoes, chilled salmon, honey, oat and malt products, are all operative.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949

The following Licences to retail graded milk within the Borough were in operation during 1953:—

Tuberculin Tested	Tuberculin Tested	Pasteurised	Sterilised	Total
3	18	21	12	54

Licences for 1949 were 11; for 1950, 34; for 1951, 47; and for 1952, 44.

It is possible to obtain any grade of milk in the Borough and the stage is being reached when only designated milks will be available. Producer Licences are granted by the Ministry of Agriculture and other licences by a Council as a Food and Drugs Authority.

MILK AND DAIRIES

The number of producers registered in the Borough for the sale of Milk (wholesale and retail) is 12, having an average of 250 cows in milk, as follows:—

	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
Producer-wholesalers ...	7	10	9	9	9	9
Producer-retailers ...	8	5	3	3	3	3
Producer—stock rearing only	0	0	3	3	3	3
	—	—	—	—	—	—
	15	15	15	15	15	15
	—	—	—	—	—	—

In 1939, there were 21 producers of milk for sale, who are now reduced to 12 (9 wholesalers and 3 retailers) and 3 for stock rearing only, a figure which has been constant since 1950. Two only are licensed for the production of Tuberculin Tested Milk, one of whom bottles and retails, nine dispose of their product to factories for pasteurisation, and two retail their small supply locally.

The number of distributors operating during the year was as follows:—

(a) Producer—retailers resident outside the Borough	2
(b) Producer—retailers resident in the Borough	3
(c) Retailers (only) resident in the Borough	14
(d) Retailers (only) resident outside the Borough	9
Total	28

There were 102 registered retailers in 1939 and the decrease has been due to the transfer of several producer-retailers to the large milk factories.

INSPECTION OF DAIRY CATTLE

The routine inspection of dairy cattle has been the responsibility of the State Veterinary Service since April, 1948. It has been the practice for many years to report all cases of Advanced Tuberculosis discovered during Meat Inspection at the Public Slaughterhouse. During 1953, 30 notifications were sent to the Divisional Veterinary Officer, in respect of 21 cows, 5 heifers, 2 steers, 1 calf and 1 Pig; one cow was from a dairy herd in the Rural area.

EXAMINATION OF MILK FOR TUBERCLE BACILLI

During 1953, 28 samples of locally produced milk were submitted for tubercle bacilli examination, all of which gave negative results. It was possible to collect samples of bulk supplies from all herds in the Borough and of those situated outside, the product of which is being retailed as raw milk in the Borough. The examinations were made at the Public Health Laboratory, Cardiff.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK

During the year, 137 samples of Milk were collected and submitted for examination to the Public Health Laboratory, as under:—

Description	Number Submitted	Number Satisfactory	Number Unsatisfactory
Ungraded	22	22	0
Tuberculin tested	6	6	0
Tuberculin tested (Pasteurised)... ..	20	20	0
Pasteurised	48	48	0
Pasteurised (Schools, Hospitals and Nurseries)	29	29	0
Sterilised	11	11	0
Youghourt	1	1	0
	—	—	—
	137	137	0
	—	—	—

The results of the 137 samples were satisfactory and all the heat-treated milks included in the same, 29 of which were from schools and nurseries, showed complete pasteurisation or sterilisation. The sample of Youghourt milk showed 3.0 per cent Fat content.

The percentage of unsatisfactory samples compares very favourably with the results over 1939-1953, as follows:—

Period	Samples Examined	Number Unsatisfactory	Percentage Unsatisfactory
1939	96	21	21.8
1940	89	18	20.2
1941	104	38	36.5
1942	107	39	36.4
1943	113	37	32.7
1944	111	29	26.1
1945	97	30	30.9
1946	110	27	24.5
1947	122	31	25.4
1948	116	25	21.5
1949	127	18	14.1
1950	141	6	4.58
1951	127	2	1.57
1952	137	5	3.64
1953	137	0	0.00

An analysis of the quarterly returns shows:

	Submitted	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
First Quarter	23	23	0
Second Quarter	36	36	0
Third Quarter	43	43	0
Fourth Quarter... ..	35	35	0
	137	137	0

WATER SUPPLY

During 1953, 94 samples (91 bacteriological and 3 chemical) were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory. The supply was satisfactorily maintained with the exception of a few local unsatisfactory samples, and no case of sickness attributable to water contamination was reported. All the town supplies are from three sources, viz., Briton Ferry, Gnoll and Ystradfellte Reservoirs, the last-named being purchased. The first two supplies are filtered and chlorinated and the Ystradfellte chlorinated only. The supply to the Briton Ferry Dock is from the town mains and all precautions are taken in the care of its equipment. Included were nine samples from private sources.

MEAT INSPECTION

The control of fat-stock and meat supply commenced in January, 1940, and continued throughout the year. Neath Mart remained the Collecting Centre for live-stock, the Neath Public Slaughterhouse being centralised for the Borough and Rural District meat supply and, in addition, was made use of for outside areas known as "export."

The duties of Meat Inspection are carried out by your Sanitary Inspectors, who are certified Meat Inspectors. Slaughtering was carried on continuously and was maintained irrespective of evening, Saturday afternoon and Sunday killing. The requisite records were kept of animals slaughtered, carcasses and offals condemned, with causes of condemnation, and the Ministry of Food's instructions strictly obeyed in every respect.

Since control, the Public Slaughterhouse only is in use, the management being dual as between the Ministry of Food and the Borough Council. All animals are slaughtered by humane methods—a stunning pen, Captive Bolt Pistols and Electric Stunners being used. There were 16 licensed slaughtermen on the register, most of whom were employed full-time.

The number of animals slaughtered during 1953 was as follows:—					
Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep and	Pigs	TOTAL
(excluding Cows			Lambs		
3,141	1,707	19,739	27,384	4,219	56,190

Cwrt Herbert Private Slaughterhouse was closed in May, 1945, re-opened from October, 1950, to February, 1951, and again re-opened on the 13th August, 1951, and continued throughout 1952-3.

TABLE OF CONDEMNED MEAT

The undermentioned carcasses and edible offal were found to be unfit for (excluding Cows)

			Cattle	Sheep	Calves	Pigs
Carcasses complete	...	...	69	52	457	28
Heads only	...	...	19	0	0	0
Tongues	...	...	0	0	0	0
Heads and Tongues	...	...	205	54	458	91
Livers	...	...	2424	2932	64	47
Part Livers	...	...	918	0	0	0
Hearts	...	...	99	0	0	0
Tails	...	...	70	0	0	0
Thick Skirts	...	...	94	0	0	0
Lungs	...	...	1516	1691	5	30
Melts	...	...	192	0	0	0
Plucks	...	...	0	55	451	46
Udders	...	...	1508	0	0	0
Gut	...	...	634	71	458	450
Tripe	...	...	72	0	0	0
Part of carcasses	...	...	2801lbs.	77lbs.	100lbs.	269lbs

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

			Cows)	Cows	Calves	Lambs	Pigs
			Cattle				
			(excluding			Sheep and	
Number Killed	...	...	3141	1707	19739	27384	4219
Number Inspected	...	...	3141	1707	19739	27384	4219

All Diseases Except Tuberculosis :

	Cattle (excluding Cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Whole carcasses condemned...	6	35	456	52	28
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	340	315	505	2933	303
Percentage of number affected with disease other than T.B.	12.9	20.0	0.5	10.9	7.8

Tuberculosis Only :

	Cattle (excluding Cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Whole carcasses condemned...	7	21	1	0	1
Carcases, of which some part or organ was condemned	280	304	5	0	41
Percentage of number in- spected affected with Tuberculosis	9.1	19.0	.03	0	1.2

In addition, 195 lbs. of Corned Beef, 109 lbs. of Imported Beef, 94 lbs. of Imported Mutton, 1,337 lbs. Home Killed Beef, 29 lbs. Home Killed Mutton and 17 lbs. of Home Killed Pork were condemned at the Distributing Centre. The Ministry's instructions regarding identification were complied with.

It will be observed that 69 carcasses of Beef, 457 carcasses of Veal, 52 carcasses of Mutton, 29 carcasses of Pork, 2,801 lbs. of Beef, 100 lbs. of Veal, 77 lbs. of Mutton, 269 lbs. of Pork, as part carcasses and a large quantity of edible offal were condemned during the year. Of the total cattle slaughtered 35 per cent were cows, which indicates a steady and continuous improvement in the quality of rationed meat as shown in the following table:—

Year	Cattle % (excluding Cows)	Cows%
1953	65	35
1952	62	38
1951	58	42
1950	46	54
1949	39	61
1948	45	55
1947	38	62
1946	29	71
1945	47	53
1939	98	2

Included in the 4,219 pigs killed at the Slaughterhouse were 6 baconers for self consumers (by licence).

Further improvements were carried out at the slaughterhouse and included the provision of electric saws.

Further to previous reports on the infestation of cattle by *Cysticercus Bovis* (Measly Beef). Since 1948, 65 carcasses have been discovered at the Borough Slaughter-house, viz.,

1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	Total
1	10	10	23	9	12	65

This disease was previously extremely rare in this country and the consumption of infested untreated meat may give rise to Tapeworm (*Tænia Saginata*) in human beings.

ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED DURING PERIOD 1946—1953

			1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
Cattle	...	...	1667	1761	1477	1530	2520	4018	3038	3141
Cows	...	...	4179	2963	1793	2434	2997	2568	1881	1707
Calves	...	...	31212	31909	27891	29547	32714	25391	18550	19739
Sheep	...	...	21988	16073	23325	27649	21189	21487	25849	27384
Pigs	...	...	405	63	676	1156	2040	1496	3002	4219
			59451	52769	55162	62316	61460	54960	52320	56190

WHOLE CARCASSES CONDEMNED DURING PERIOD 1946—1953

			1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
Cattle	...	...	9	6	6	8	9	15	12	9
Cows	...	...	624	321	153	241	295	179	123	10
Calves	...	...	222	264	237	236	375	362	244	457
Sheep	...	...	26	26	19	47	61	33	29	52
Pigs	...	...	4	2	10	13	14	21	19	29
			885	619	425	545	754	610	427	607

PUBLIC HEALTH REGULATIONS 1924—1948

The Regulations were generally well observed and it was noted that there was a steady improvement in the proper use of overalls and utensils, although it was again necessary on occasions to call attention to the condition of vehicles and the cleanliness of meat handlers, particularly nearing the end of the shift. The transport of meat and edible offal for sale for human consumption was generally under the direction of the Ministry of Food and their co-operation through their Depot Managers was of great assistance in the carrying out of the various Regulations.

BUTCHERS' SHOPS

There were 46 premises in use as butchers' shops—33 as shops proper and 13 as stalls in the covered market. With the exception of 11 occupied by the Co-operative Society, 4 Woodleys, Ltd., and J. H. Dewhurst, Ltd., 35 were family businesses. All the shops have proper refrigerators for the storing of meat and smalls pending sale. The premises generally were kept clean, but there was room for improving standards of hygiene and suggestions to this end were submitted. The importance of paying close attention to the manufacture and storage of meat foods was stressed, as by very nature they are especially liable to contamination and to the development of pathogenic organisms. In every instance proper ablution and toilet facilities were available.

OTHER PREMISES WHERE FOOD IS SOLD, STORED OR PREPARED FOR SALE

1. BAKEHOUSES:

There were 20 bakehouses in use during the year, and change in Ownership in one. On investigation it was found that there were 150 persons employed in the trade in general. Toilet and ablution services were adequate and properly maintained. Further alterations were carried out and included changes in methods of heating, wall and floor surfacing and improved lighting and ventilation. The slicing and wrapping of bread was undertaken on several premises, but generally flour confectionery is the principal preparation at the smaller places. No serious complaints of pest infestation was received, the use of disinfectants is usual, and all the premises are supplied with water from the town's mains.

2. AERATED WATER WORKS:

The four factories were fully employed throughout the year in the preparation of soft drinks and three were also manufacturing vinegar and gravy-browning. The premises were at all times found to be satisfactorily conducted. Every precaution was taken regarding the water supply, samples were regularly taken, and there was no complaint as to adequacy and quality of same.

3. ICE-CREAM SHOPS:

There were 94 premises, 8 of which are factories, selling ice-cream in the Borough. The majority sell the product of national manufacturers. All the ice-cream is stored and sold from proper containers and the few who enter the area are registered.

The Ice-Cream Regulations provide for the heat treatment of ice-cream mixtures with provisional standards applicable to same. The methods of examination are recognised as being experimental and samples are collected and conveyed to the laboratory in an ice-container.

The laboratory examinations since 1947 are as under:—

Year	No. Submitted	No. Grade 1	No. Grade 2	No. Grade 3	No. Grade 4
1947	30	10	2	8	10
1948	42	13	6	9	14
1949	50	25	11	8	6
1950	42	18	16	5	3
1951	41	32	2	4	3
1952	30	26	1	2	1
1953	42	35	5	2	0

The provisional Regulations interpret the above as:—

Year	No. Submitted	No. Satis- factory	No. Fairly Satis- factory	No. Unsatis- factory	No. Very Unsatis- factory
1947	30	10	2	8	10
1948	42	13	6	9	14
1949	50	25	11	8	6
1950	42	18	16	5	3
1951	41	32	2	4	3
1952	30	26	1	2	1
1953	42	35	5	2	0

The percentage of unsatisfactory samples was 5, compared with: 1947—60, and 1952—10. It is recommended that proceedings should be taken against consistent offenders only.

4. FISH FRYING BUSINESSES:

Twentysix premises were in use for the sale of fried fish and chipped potatoes. The premises were regularly visited and found to be satisfactorily maintained. It was necessary to call attention and serve Nuisance Notices in respect of yard cleanliness, defective and broken refuse bins, internal decoration and ventilation. There were no complaints as to accumulations resulting from disposal of waste. Wrapping for consumption off the premises had improved greatly. Business was not as flourishing as during the rationing of food and mobile vans were conspicuous by their absence, except during "Fair Week."

5. FISH SHOPS AND HAWKERS:

Eleven shops sold fish in the Borough, one of which sold dried or preserved fish only. The premises were usually found to be clean, but it was necessary to serve several Notices covering defective refuse bins, accumulations of wastes, and maintenance of hot water for the washing of hands. Fish hawkers were seen, but usually traded from Central Wholesalers, and no complaints were received as to the conduct of the trade or of the fish sold.

6. HOTELS, RESTAURANTS, CAFES & CANTEENS:

The restaurants and cafes—30 in number—were open to serve the public continuously; 21 canteens provided for the works and factories, but the building trade still lags behind. Persons employed at the restaurants, etc., were about 300.

The premises were usually found well conducted, with improved storage and refrigeration, washing facilities and sanitary conveniences. It was necessary to call attention to the need of re-decoration at several places, and also to the provision of strictly separate toilets for the staff.

Disposal of waste to local pig-dealers was satisfactory. There were no serious complaints of vermin infestations; insecticides are used freely and the local authority provides an efficient and appreciated rodent control service.

7. GENERAL PROVISION SHOPS, STALLS AND STORES:

The following is a list of the foodstuffs condemned:—

2lbs. Pork Pies	207lbs. Sausages
84lbs. Sausage Meat	20lbs. Saveloys
402 Tins Meat	159lbs. Bacon
1119lbs Cooked Ham	51lbs. Beef
136lbs. Chicken	10lbs. Chitterlings
180lbs. Cooked Tongue	1 Rabbit
5 Jars Sandwich Spread	1 Bottle Tenderiser
4 packets Beef Suet	75lbs. Corned Beef
28lbs. Jellied Veal	191 packets (191lbs.) Cheese

24½lbs. Cheese	5½lbs. Chocolate
53 packets Pastry Mixture	73 packets Cake Mixture
6 packets Sponge Mixture	69 Tins Jam
1319 Tins Fruit	846 Tins Vegetables
73 Crates Broccoli	87lbs. Cake
12lbs. Cake Flour	56lbs. Cornflour
180lbs. Flour	8lbs. Baby Food
224lbs. Yeast Food	10lbs. Biscuits
5 packets Shortbread	19 packets Pudding Mixture
26 packets Semolina	1lb. Rice
7 packets Dates	99lbs. Dried Fruit
54 packets Raisins	168lbs. Oranges
4 packets Coconut	48lbs. Raspberries
113 Tins Milk	336lbs. Fondant
92 Tins Milk and Cream	5lbs. Sweets
35 Tins Fish	28lbs. Smoked Haddock
21 Boxes Haddock	2 Boxes Kippers

GENERAL INSPECTION

1. SHOPS ACTS:

The administration of the Shops Acts and Regulations have been in the Weights and Measures Department since 1st July, 1939. Several Notices were served and complied with in respect of sanitary accommodation and the welfare arrangements of the shop workers were satisfactory. Both departments have certain provisions to enforce and there is complete co-operation between them.

2. HAIRDRESSERS' ESTABLISHMENTS:

There were 36 hairdressing establishments operated in the Borough—17 Ladies and 19 Gentlemen, employing 22 Assistants.

The premises were reasonably clean, but it was necessary to call attention to the need of re-decoration, inadequate ventilation, insanitary water-closet and defective slop-water discharges. It was also pointed out that constant sterilisation of utensils, cloths and appliances should be routine procedure, and particular care exercised where skin diseases were inspected.

3. OFFENSIVE TRADES:

In the Borough, there are established four Offensive Trades, three of Rag and Bone Dealers and one of Gut Scrapers. Each has been consented and are situated in James Street, Canal Side, The Green and the Public Abattoir, respectively. They were satisfactorily conducted, and having regard to the nature of the businesses, little complaint could be found, excepting of accumulations due to transport difficulties and of smells arising from decomposing organic matter, and a suitable deodorant was put into use.

4. TENTS, VANS, SHEDS, Etc.

The area was singularly free, with the exception of two cases, one of a movable structure and one unauthorised dwelling. The Police Department has at all times assisted in their control. It is the custom for a large number of living vans to be stationed temporarily on the field during Fairs and Shows, and sanitary conveniences and water supply are provided.

5. RENT & MORTGAGE INTEREST (RESTRICTIONS) ACTS

One application was received during 1953 for a certificate of the Sanitary Authority as to the "state of repair" of dwelling houses.

6. SANITARY ACCOMMODATION OF CINEMAS

The five cinemas in the Borough were periodically inspected, special attention being given to their cleanliness, condition of sanitary conveniences, presence of rodents and other infestations. The position regarding the reconstruction of the Groll and the adaptation of the Public Hall, Briton Ferry, followed by the closing of the Palace and the transfer of the licence thereto, remains as reported fully in 1941. There are two groups of Owners, one of the Neath premises and the other of those in Briton Ferry; the seating accommodation remains at 5,362 persons, employees number 88 persons; the work of general cleansing and re-decorating has been completed, but extensive repairs are in progress.

Routine inspections of the three Billiard Halls were made during the year, and general improvement in cleanliness and maintenance was observed. Orchard Street was closed during part of the year, but the use of the basement of Burton's is proposed for next year.

7. SANITARY CONVENIENCES OF SCHOOLS:

All the Public Schools, including Nurseries, are controlled by the County Council. There are, in addition, two private schools specialising in the teaching of Commercial Subjects, and these were inspected as to overcrowding, sanitary accommodation, cleanliness, etc. The milk supply to all the schools is pasteurised and the water supply is from the town's mains. During the year, 27 samples of milk were submitted for Bacteriological Examination and 27 samples for Chemical Analysis, and the supply proved highly satisfactory.

The Swimming Pool was made full use of during the season.

Every assistance was given in rodent control of school kitchens and the work of disinfecting was done on behalf of the County Council.

8. LICENSED PREMISES:

Inspections were made at intervals of the licensed premises, including the registered Clubs and Institutes in the Borough, principally in respect of the sanitary and hygienic conditions and as to the state of the conveniences. There were 63 licensed houses and 14 registered clubs, and there was little change in their number, ownership and management. Further alterations, repairs and re-decoration were in hand and good progress was being made with regard to increased conveniences, extended yard areas and facilities for the cleaning of glass-ware and equipment.

The clubs were well maintained, but it was necessary to call attention to refuse accumulations, yard drainage and mis-use of cellars.

9. PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951:

The Act came into operation from the 1st April, 1952, and requires that all pet shops be registered. Such licenses are to operate for twelve months and are subject to conditions imposed by you. Four applications were received and granted Licences in respect of 1953, as against six in 1952.

10. THE RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951:

The Act and Regulations made thereunder comes into force on the 1st November, 1951. Four premises were registered for 1953 and only material from licensed factories was found to be used on same during routine inspections.

11. RATS AND MICE INFESTATION:

	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agricul- tural	Business and Indust.	Total
1. Properties inspected by Local Authority:					
(a) Notified as infested	0	62	0	35	97
(b) Otherwise ...	49	233	12	35	329
2. Properties found to be infested by rats:					
(a) Major	0	0	0	0	0
(b) Minor	24	195	0	33	252
3. Properties found to be infested with mice:					
(a) Major	0	0	0	0	0
(b) Minor	0	2	0	11	13
4. Properties treated by Local Authority ...	24	197	0	44	265
(a) Surface Treatment:					
Baits Laid	1585		Dead rats found	...	221
No Takes	719		Dead mice found	...	12
Takes	866				

SEWER TREATMENT, 1953

Manholes baited	178	Baits taken	95
Manholes Test baited...	246	Baits taken	43
Total	424	Total	138

The treatment of sewers commenced in 1944, and from 1951, a modified scheme has been applied, and during 1953 a special treatment was done. The Ministry's methods were strictly obeyed, both in surface and sewer treatments. Your Rodent Operative attended a further "Refresher Course," and I have pleasure in stating that his work has been satisfactory and that chargeable services were appreciated.

The Chairman of the Public Health Committee and I continued our representation of the Rodent Advisory Committee of the South Wales area.

12. PRIVATE WORK ON DRAINS BY THE BOROUGH ENGINEER'S DEPT. :

The following work was carried out by the Borough Engineer's Department on my instigation and at the expense of the Owners, under the Public Health Act, 1936.

- (a) Cleansing of drains at request of Owner at 5 dwelling-houses.
- (b) Cleansing of combined drains at 127 houses in 19 incidents.

HOUSING

Houses Unfit for Human Habitation.

Demolition Orders were made in respect of:

- 48 Lowther Street, Briton Ferry.
- 47 and 53 Lowther Street, Briton Ferry.
- 32 Pantyrheol, Penrhiewtyn, Neath.
- 33 and 34 Farm Road, Penrhiewtyn, Neath.
- 42 Rosse Street, Neath.

Houses Subject to Demolition Orders :

141 and 143 Neath Road, Briton Ferry, subject to pre-war Demolition Orders, were re-constructed into one shop and living accommodation premises, and the "Orders" determined by the Council.

Summary of Progress and Position on 31st December, 1953.

(a) Slum Clearance Areas :

Year			No. of Areas	No. of Houses	No. of Persons	Squatters	Total Families
1938	...	...	37	452	1650	0	130
1952	...	...	13	71	236	4	79
1953	...	...	14	64	217	9	80

(b) Demolition Orders :

Year				No. of Houses	No. of Persons	Squatters	Total Families
1952	...	...	...	17	67	11	18
1953	...	...	...	19	97	12	22

(c) A.T.S. Camp, Dwryfelin :

Year				Huts	Squatters	Families	Persons
1952	...	...	...	10	10	10	53
1953	...	...	...	7	2	7	34

(d) Re-Housing Accommodation :

				Occupied	Squatters	Families	Persons
(a) Clearance Areas	...	...	...	67	9	80	217
(b) Demolition Orders	...	...	...	19	12	22	97
(c) Huts	...	...	...	7	2	7	34
				—	—	—	—
Total, 1953	...	...	...	93	23	109	365
				—	—	—	—
Total, 1952	...	...	...	98	25	107	356
				—	—	—	—

OVERCROWDING, 1953

Particulars of Overcrowding :

TABLE 1. Overcrowding Records :

Ward				1936		1952	
				Families	Persons	Families	Persons
North	...	...	...	186	—	75	349
South	...	...	...	142	—	95	510
Briton Ferry...	...	...	...	84	—	39	220
Council Houses	...	...	...	25	—	40	252
				—	—	—	—
				437	2553	249	1376
				—	—	—	—

TABLE 2. New Cases during the Year :

Ward				Families	Persons
North	...	...	...	11	54
South	...	...	...	26	129
Briton Ferry...	...	...	...	9	44
Council Houses	...	...	...	9	52
				—	—
				55	279
				—	—

TABLE 3. Reasons for New Cases of Overcrowding :

Ward				Families	Persons
Sub-Tenants	...	...	...	53	266
Natural Increases in Family	...	...	...	2	13
				—	—
				55	279
				—	—

TABLE 4. De-crowded Families, 1953 :

Ward	Families	Persons
North	12	52
South	5	27
Briton Ferry	3	13
Council Houses	7	30
	27	122

TABLE 5. Methods of Abatement of Overcrowding :

	North	South	Briton Ferry	Council
Given Council Houses	12	4	3	6
Reduction in size of Family	0	1	0	1
	12	5	3	7

TABLE 6. Position of Overcrowded Houses, 31st December, 1953 :

Ward	No. of Families in the Houses	No. of Persons Involved	No. of Families Overcrowding	No. of Persons Involved
North	119	514	75	394
South	165	698	95	510
Briton Ferry	61	275	39	220
Council Houses	69	329	40	252
	414	1816	249	1376

HOUSING STATISTICS, 1953

1. Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the Year :

(i) Total number of houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health and Housing Acts... ..	1772
(ii) Number of inspections made for the purpose	6021
(iii) Number of dwelling houses (included under (i) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	7
(iv) Number of inspections made for the purpose	7
(v) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	7
(vi) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	480

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without the service of Formal Notices :

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ...	59
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3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936	0
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:	
1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served required defects to be remedied	480
2. Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal Notices:	
(i) By owners	518
(ii) By Local Authority	0
(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936	0
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 ...	0

4. Housing Act, 1936. Part IV. Overcrowding :

(a) 1. Number of dwelling houses overcrowded at the end of the year	249
2. Number of families dwelling therein	414
3. Number of persons dwelling therein	1816
(b) 1. Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	55
2. Number of persons concerned in such cases	279
(c) 1. Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	27
2. Number of persons concerned with such cases	122
(d) 1. Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority has taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	0

5. Eradication of Bed Bugs:

1. Number of Council houses found to be:

(a) Infested	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
(b) Disinfested	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

2. Number of other houses found to be:

(a) Infested	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
(b) Disinfested	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11

The methods available for the elimination of the bed bug are, briefly, by the use of fumigants and sprays. Of the fumigants, Hydrogen Cyanide is still rated high, and disinfestation of any infested house by same calls for caution and skill. Great strides have been made through the experience of war in the development and use of insecticides, notably D.D.T., and it is now possible to achieve excellent results by their use. The procedure carried out in the Borough is fumigation by "Thermatox" where premises can be vacated, and spraying with approved insecticides containing D.D.T. and Pyrethrum, in other cases.

GENERAL

1. HOUSING:

Further progress was made in the erection of houses and 84 of traditional type were completed in 1953.

At the end of the year, there were 67 houses subject to Slum Clearance Orders, 19 houses on which were Demolition Orders and 7 huts at Dwryfelin Camp Site still occupied, a total of 109 families to be housed. The general procedure followed by local authorities in pursuing their slum clearance programme under the Housing Act, 1936, has in the past proved quite satisfactory. For several years prior to the outbreak of World War II, slum clearance and re-housing was proceeding steadily in most cities and towns. Since then, over fourteen years have gone by, during which it has not been possible to again open up this great campaign. It is true that since the war some action has been taken to demolish unfit houses, but this work has been almost entirely limited to action against individual unfit houses and the worst of the structurally dangerous houses. Some people regard slum clearance as being a simple operation, and they are amazed that it should take so long. The Borough is fortunate that several members and officers have had actual experience of putting the work into operation, covering it in all its aspects, and including compensation. The Minister of Housing and Local Government has decided that a survey should be done and an estimate of unfit and sub-standard houses should be made available within a year of the passing of the 1954 Act.

2. FOOD POISONING:

There was no case of Food Poisoning reported during 1953, and it is pleasing to report that the Borough has been singularly free of same.

3. NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS:

Three cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis were investigated at the request of the Medical Officer of Health. The Department works in co-operation with the State Veterinary Service and the Public Health Laboratory, in the notification of condemned tubercular carcasses, together with veterinary history, and of milk examination.

4. BURIAL OF THE DEAD :

The disposal of unclaimed bodies in your area (excluding hospitals) is the responsibility of the Local Authority and is arranged by this Department (Section 50, National Assistance Act, 1948).

During the year, three cases from the same Common Lodging House, were buried by your Contractor. Two other cases, from private dwelling-houses, were not accepted as being our responsibility.

5. SPECIAL FEATURES :

(a) Factories.

A special inspection of all the factories within the Borough was carried out in 1953, with particular attention to the provision and maintenance of water supplies and sanitary conveniences.

No. of Firms	No. of Factories	Employees		Total
		Male	Female	
209	221	4794	2196	6990

(b) Common Lodging Houses.

The number of Lodgers present on 31st December, 1953, was 70, and shows a big reduction on the 112 in 1950.

(c) Food and Drugs.

The 108 samples were certified as of good quality.

It will be observed that ten samples of flour confectionery were infested with various mites and four samples were rancid. Special examinations of accumulated war-time stocks were made throughout the year.

(d) Graded Milks.

Any grade of milk was obtainable in the Borough and the stage is being reached when only designated milks will be available; 54 Licences were issued in 1953. It is regrettable that only two dairy farms were licensed for T.T. Milk production in the Borough.

(e) Un-graded Milks.

It was possible to collect samples from all herds in the Borough and of those situated outside, the product of which is being retailed in the Borough during 1953.

(f) Bacteriological Examination of Milk.

The 139 samples submitted to the Public Health Laboratory were certified as being satisfactory, and a table in the Report shows the improvement over the war years.

(g) Meat Inspection.

The number of animals killed and inspected was 56,190. Of the total cattle slaughtered, 35 per cent were cows, a further and steady improvement in the quality of rationed beef. Twelve cases of *Cysticercus Bovis* were discovered during meat inspection at the slaughterhouse, making a total of 65 since 1948. Memo 3/Meat came into operation on 1st February, 1953, and with the exception of improved hygienic clauses, there was little difference from Memo 62.

(h) Ice Cream.

The percentages of unsatisfactory samples was five, compared with 60 in 1947 and 10 in 1952, which reflects credit upon the manufacturers and indicates improved hygienic methods and high grade ingredients.

(i) Water Supply.

The supply was satisfactorily maintained during the year. Chemical samples were submitted for examination as to the Flourine content. The results for the Gnoll, Cefn Court and Ystradfellte supplies being 0.86, 0.65 and 0.24 parts per million, respectively.

(j) New Acts, Regulations and Orders.

The year 1953 was remarkable for the large number of new Acts, regulations and orders issued, particularly on food, food handling, slaughtering, and in connection with the diseases of animals. The enforcing of the latter was my responsibility as the Inspector for the purposes of the Diseases of Animals Acts, and the Regulations and Orders made thereunder.

(k) Special Reports.

- (1) **FACTORIES**—on their inspection and classification.
- (2) **FLOODING**—on the damage caused to dwelling-houses during the incidents of August and September, 1953.
- (3) **COMBINED DRAINS**—127 houses forming 19 incidents were dealt with during 1953. Probably a record for the Borough and undoubtedly due in part at least to the aftermath of the heavy rainfalls and high tides experienced and the consequent over-charge and silting back of the public sewers.
- (4) **HOUSING**—a statement was submitted showing the relative position regarding condemned houses in the Borough in 1938 and 1953, as to Clearance Areas, Demolition Orders, Camp Sites and Re-housing requirements for same.
- (5) **CIVIL DEFENCE**—The Council and the Town Clerk were kept informed of my activities with regard to the various duties accepted by me in this respect.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The recording of rainfall — roof and ground, solids insoluble and soluble, suspended tarry matter, other suspended combustible matter, the ash of the insoluble matter and the sulphur pollution—has been made monthly since November, 1949, and observations of the daily mean concentration of smoke commenced on the 1st July, 1953. The analyses are made by the Public Health Laboratory, Cardiff. The observations are noted on standard forms, supplied by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, to whom copies are sent for inclusion in their monthly "Summary of Observations," and which is distributed to co-operating bodies, the Council being a member and represented by the Chairman of the Health Committee and the Chief Sanitary Inspector. There are two national organisations interested in the abatement of smoke, fumes and grit nuisances, the Council being a Member of both, the one referred to above and the National Smoke Abatement Society.

Observations were made of emissions from certain factories and public buildings, and it was necessary to call attention to three major nuisances arising from same at a ship-breaking yard, a factory and hospital, all of which were duly abated.

SUMMARY OF RECORDINGS, 1950—1953

Year		Total Rainfall (inches)	Average Solids in tons per square mile	Average Sulphur (S.O. ₃) Maximum Day Pollution per 1,000 sq. cms.)	Interpretation number of	
					A's	B's
1950	...	61.55	15.97	7.3	4	8
1951	...	62.16	16.96	6.8	2	10
1952	...	50.10	13.69	6.7	8	4
1953	...	50.36	15.49	6.6	6	6

These results for practical purposes for the four years under review are interpreted as:—

"A"	...	Clean	...	...	20
"B"	...	Fairly Clean	...	...	20
"C"	...	Dirty	...	...	0
"D"	...	Very Dirty	...	...	0

Measurement of Smoke by means of Smoke Filter

			Value of mg/m ² Smoke Concentration		
			Average	Highest	Lowest
Average, 1952	...	...	0.157	0.342	0.060
Average, 1953	...	...	0.157	0.342	0.060
RAINFALL:			Inches		
Average 1900—1952	...	...	...	57.09	
For 1953	...	...	...	50.36	

Monthly reports were submitted to the Health Committee and copies were exhibited in the two Public Libraries. Copies were also sent to the Neath Technical College and to a group of Local Medical Practitioners for information.

I wish to express my thanks to the Members of the Council, the Medical Officer of Health and my colleagues in the Department, the Borough Public Analyst, and the Officials of the Corporation, for their assistance throughout the year.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

EVAN THOMAS,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.



